

Fort Sisseton Commission Meeting
April 20, 2017

The Fort Sisseton Commission met April 20, 2017 at Fort Sisseton State Park. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. Commission members present were Duane Hemmah, Judy Gulleeson, Gary Strand, Dennis Darrington, Jim Patrick, Glen Johnson, Bill Hoskins, Kirk Jones and Mary Dunn. GFP personnel present were Bob Schneider, Willy Collignon, Lori Skadsen and Chris Soukup. Al Nedved and Nancy Surprenant joined the commission for supper. Minutes taken by Dalaine Pleinis

AGENDA ITEMS

Judy introduced the GFP staff.

MOTION BY BILL, 2ND BY MARY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING AS PRINTED. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

FOUNDATION REPORT - *Chris* reviewed the foundation report.

MOTION BY BILL 2ND BY BRUCE TO ACCEPT THE FOUNDATION REPORT AS PRESENTED. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

OLD BUSINESS:

Barn Stalls - *Bruce* informed the commission that the Barn Stalls/Lighting project has been completed. Dirt has been added to level the ground. Total project cost was \$3,637.43

Fund Raising - *Duane* is the lead for the selling of the commemorative bags. The fort will be giving away 170 of them to visitors of the Festival. The remaining 170 will be sold by the commission for \$5.00 apiece.

Hats for Prints - *Judy* updated the commission on the hat fundraiser. The hats are ordered and should be here any day. There are 48 hats with the 40th logo. Each commission member will get hats to sell. There are 3 sets of framed prints. Those purchasing hats will have a 1 in 16 chance to win a set of prints. A minimum price will be set once there is a final invoice for the hats and framing of the prints.

Plates - *Lori* informed the commission that 90 silver plates have been purchased to be embossed with the 40th logo. They will be given to the past employees and chuck wagon sponsors. The rest will be sold at \$20.00 per plate in lieu of tickets for a meal at the chuck wagon.

Cannon Carriage Wheels - *Chris* reported that the project is complete at a total cost of \$2,350.00 delivered and in place.

NEW BUSINESS:

Festival

Programs *Chris* informed the commission that the itinerary is ready including a 40th Anniversary ceremony for past employees at 10:30am on Saturday and extended hours of entertainment under the tent.

Chuck Wagon Waiting on confirmation from the rest of the wagons

People Movers *Bruce* has arranged for 2 people movers that will transport visitors from the south parking lot to designated area at the south entrance. They will be pulled by small tractors and Buckhorn will furnish people to operate them. It is strongly suggested that signs stating children must be accompanied by an adult be posted on the movers.

Parking was discussed.

Sound System - *Willy* presented options for providing remote sound to make announcements at the Festival. Discussion was held. A town crier was also discussed.

MOTION BY BRUCE 2ND BY BILL TO TABLE THE TOPIC OF A SOUND SYSTEM TO A LATER MEETING. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Staffing Needs - *Chris* has enough paid staff for Festival. He is still looking for volunteers.

Carpenter's Shop - *Chris* is still looking for a volunteer that would be willing to work in the Carpenter's Shop during events.

2017 Events Schedule - *Chris* presented the season's event schedule including a new event called On the Frontier with Bill's re-enactment group.

2017 Garden - *Bruce* updated the commission on dates and times of the Harvest Fest. They are exploring expanding the times of the event and providing additional activities.

National Historic Landmark Update - *Chris* has received a letter stating that the fort is under review to be considered a national landmark.

Meeting Date Planning - *Willy* opened the discussion pertaining to times of the commission meetings, evening vs afternoon. Discussion was held. Next year's meeting dates will be set at the September meeting. It was suggested that the winter meetings be held in the afternoon.

Open Discussion - *Bruce* informed the commission that the fort was an inland fort, resulting in challenges with transportation for supplies, mail, etc. He and Bill have been researching getting a period correct vehicle (escort wagon, stagecoach, supply wagon, etc.) for display at the fort.

NEXT MEETING DATE: The next meeting was set for July 21, 2017 at 5:00pm. A Festival wrap up meeting will follow the meal. After the meeting the commission is invited to attend the Northern Fort Playhouse wine and cheese tasting and the play that follows.

MOTION TO ADJOURN BY DUANE 2ND BY GLEN.